

APPENDIX 2

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1. A method for designing or deploying a communications network, comprising the steps of:

providing a computerized model which represents a physical environment in which a communications network is or will be installed, said computerized model providing a display of at least a portion of said physical environment;

providing performance attributes for a plurality of system components which may be used in said physical environment, a number of said system components having associated with them frequency dependent characteristics;

selecting specific components from said plurality of system components for use in said computerized model;

representing said selected specific components in said display;

running prediction models using the computerized model and said performance attributes to predict performance characteristics of a communications network comprised of said selected specific components, said prediction models utilizing said frequency dependent characteristics in calculations which predict said performance characteristics of said communications network.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said cost information comprises a maintenance schedule for selected specific components.

10. An apparatus for designing or deploying a communications network, comprising:
a means for providing

(I) a computerized model which represents a physical environment in which a communications network is or will be installed, said computerized model providing a display of at least a portion of said physical environment, and

(II) performance attributes for a plurality of system components which may be used in said physical environment, a number of said system components having

associated with them frequency dependent characteristics;

a means for selecting specific components from said plurality of system components for use in said computerized model;

a means for representing said selected specific components in said display;
and

a means for running prediction models using the computerized model and said performance attributes to predict performance characteristics of a communications network comprised of said selected specific components, said prediction models utilizing said frequency dependent characteristics in calculations which predict said performance characteristics of said communications network.
